

## Mauritius: Electronic Registry Project

### The challenge:

In a bid to improve the investment climate in Mauritius, the Government of Mauritius decided to reduce the time taken to register a property to 48 hours. However to do this requires a fully paperless system. At the moment the Land Administration, Valuation and Information Management System (LAVMIS) that the Government uses requires documents to be scanned into the system. It does not allow online transactions or payments.



Additionally, there is a mix of manual and computerized registers which lead to islands of systems which do not talk to each other. Registration is done in several steps and in a mix of manual and semi-automated mode, making it a time consuming and error prone process. People have to use different cashiers for different transactions. All this has resulted in long queues at the Registrar General Department as people try to register their properties.

### The solution:

ICF is working with the Government of Mauritius to introduce an electronic Registry which would allow users to submit and pay for asset registration online. Existing registers will be fully digitized to allow faster search. Legal reforms to enforce electronic registration will be adopted. The project would transform the registration of assets, including movable and immovable property transactions. The aim is to reduce the time and cost for the registration of documents in Mauritius in order to foster a conducive investment climate for the private sector and members of the public.

The project will cost a total of US\$ 5.7m. Of this, ICF is providing US\$ 2.7m and the Government of Mauritius is providing US\$ 3m.

### Expected impact:

The project is expected to reduce the time for transferring ownership of immovable property (e.g. houses) from 15 days to 1 day, and movable property (e.g. cars) from 1 day to 30 minutes. Other documents, such as affidavits, security bonds and leases will be processed within 30 minutes rather than the previous 1 day. The time taken to search the deeds archives will go down from 1-2 days to 30 minutes.

### Project duration: February 2012 – September 2014

The Investment Climate Facility for Africa is a grant providing organisation that works with African Governments to improve the environment in which businesses operate. ICF engages closely with implementing Government bodies throughout the life of the project. For more information about ICF please visit [www.icfafrica.org](http://www.icfafrica.org)